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—An important series of lectures on Evolution is being delivered in the Second Unitarian Church of Brooklyn (Dr. Chadwick's), under the auspices of the Brooklyn Ethical Association. The lectures are delivered on alternate Sunday evenings, beginning on Oct. 14 and ending May 26. They are issued in pamphlet form and may be obtained from Dr. Lewis G. James, President, No. 55 Liberty St., New York.

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.—Annual meeting, and election of officers for 1889, *January 12*, 1889.—The following officers were elected :

President—Lester F. Ward.

Vice-Presidents—C. V. Riley, R. Rathbun, C. H. Merriam, Frank Baker.

Recording Secretary—J. B. Smith.

Corresponding Secretary—F. A. Lucas.

Treasurer—F. H. Knowlton.

Members of Council—Geo. Vasey, J. H. Bean, R. E. C. Stearns, C. D. Walcott, F. W. True.

January 26.—The following communications were read : Dr. Cooper Curtice, Notes on the Sheep Tick, *Melophagus ovinus* Linn.; Dr. Geo. Vasey, New Species of North American *Gramineæ* of the Last Twelve Years ; Mr. Th. Holm, Contributions to the Morphology of the Genus *Carex* ; Dr. C. Hart Merriam, A New Species of Pika (*Lagomys*).

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION OF STATEN ISLAND.—*January 12*, 1889.—Mr. Wm. T. Davis read the following notes in regard to the appearance of shad along our shores :

“ It has been the custom among those engaged in shad fishing in the bay to preserve a record of their first catch, which sometimes merely consists in chalking the date on the beams in the houses where they keep their nets and live, so as to lose no time at the turning of the tide. In one of these houses I copied the following dates, posted on the rafters overhead, as already described :

“ April 3, 1873; March 30, 1874; March 28, 1878; March 30, 1879; April 4, 1880; April 5, 1881; April 4, 1883; April 9, 1884, 49 fish taken; April 11, 1885, 1 fish taken; April 11, 1886; April 9, 1887, 36 fish taken; April 11, 1888, 29 fish taken.

“ Mr. Wm. H. Wardell, who lives at Bay Ridge, Long Island, but who fishes from the Staten Island shore, has given me the following record of his first captures :

“ April 3, 1878; March 29, 1879; March 28, 1880; April 9, 1881; April 5, 1882; April 5, 1883; April 1, 1884; April 3, 1885; April 5, 1886; April 7, 1887; April 11, 1888.

“ One of the signs of the Indians' calendar was the blossoming of the ‘shad bush’ (*Amelanchier*), which occurs about the middle of April,

and it will be seen from the above dates to be an excellent guide, for it is not until its flowers appear that the fish come in numbers."

Mr. Chas. W. Leng presented the following memorandum: "In the Proceedings of April 14, 1888, a correction must be made in regard to the pupation of water beetles, the fact being that they pupate not under water, but in soil. Mr. Davis has this year raised the larvæ of *Hydrophilus triangularis* and supplied a part of the larvæ with soil under water and others simply with soil. The first lot refused to pupate, while many of the second lot formed pupæ in the ground."

THE INDIANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE held its annual meeting in the Court-House at Indianapolis Dec. 25, 26, and 27. The following papers were read: Geographical Distribution of Umbellifers, J. M. Coulter; A Study of the Sub-epidermal Rusts of Grasses and Sedges, H. L. Bolley; The Future of Systematic Botany, J. M. Coulter; Raphides in Fruit of *Monstera deliciosa*, W. S. Windle; The Spines of Cactacæ, Walter H. Evans; Strengthening Cells and Resin Ducts in *Coniferae* (by abstract), S. Coulter; The Epidermal Scales of Tillandsia, H. Seaton; Peculiarities of the Indiana Flora, J. M. Coulter; An Objection to the Contraction Hypothesis as Accounting for Mountains, F. B. Taylor; The Old Channel of Niagara River, J. T. Scovell; The "Collett Glacial River," J. L. Campbell; A Sketch of the Geology of Arkansas, J. C. Branner; Evidences of Shallow Water Deposition of Silurian Rocks, Chas. W. Hargitt; Meanderings of the Arkansas River Below Little Rock, J. C. Branner; Occurrence of *Ancistrodon contortrix* in Dearborn County, Ind., C. W. Hargitt; Some Strange Cases of Color Variation in Animals, C. W. Hargitt; Amœba: a Query, S. Coulter; On a Striped Spermathile Mammal New to Indiana, A. W. Butler; Explorations of the United States Fish Commission in Virginia and North Carolina, D. S. Jordan; Analogy between River Faunæ and Island Faunæ, D. S. Jordan; Outline of Work in Physiological Psychology, W. J. Bryan; The Ancestry of the Blind Fishes, D. S. Jordan; A New Kind of Phosphorescent Organs in Porichthys, Fred. C. Test; Notes on Indiana Reptiles, A. W. Butler; On the Skull of the Larva of *Amphiuma means*, On the Hyobranchial Apparatus of *Amblystoma microstomum*, Further on the Habits of Some Amblystomas, O. P. Hay; Contributions to the Knowledge of the Genus *Branchipus*, O. P. and W. P. Hay; The Occurrence in Indiana of the Wood Ibis (*Tantalus loculator*), B. W. Evermann; The Relation of Systematic Zoology to Museum Administration, D. S. Jordan; Observations on the Destruction of Birds by Storms on Lake Michigan, A. W. Butler; Additions to the Fish-Fauna of Vigo County, Indiana, B. W. Evermann; Some Notes on the Natural History of Guaymas, Mexico, O. P. Jenkins and B. W. Evermann. The Presidential address, "Religion and Continuity," was delivered Christmas night by Dr. D. P. D. John. The following officers were elected for the following year: President, John C. Branner; Vice-Presidents, T. C. Mendenhall, Oliver P. Hay, John L. Campbell; Secretary, Amos W. Butler; Treasurer, Oliver P. Jenkins. The Field-meeting will be held at Greensburg, Ind., in May.